Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Among the Hidden is about a family who has 3 children. They are only supposed to have 2 children because of “The Famine” (shortage of food). Luke Garner, a twelve-year-old third child, lives on a farm with his mother, father, and two brothers, Matthew and Mark. Being the third child, Luke and his parents are in violation of the law. Luke, and all of the other “Third child of the family”, must spend his days hidden or away from the public. The government starts to build houses in the forest behind the Garners' house, and Luke is forced to hide and remain inside his house.

While Luke is looking out of a small vent, with which he can see outside, he sees a shadow of a child in a window of a house that already has two children. He secretly sneaks out and runs over to the house, and meets thirteen-year-old Jen Talbot, who just so happens to be “the third child” of the Talbot family.

Jen begins to show Luke that is in total disagreement with what the government has done. Jen organizes a rally in support of the third children, and asks Luke to come, but Luke refuses, afraid of what might and could happen. After not hearing from Jen for a few weeks, Luke runs over to her house again and secretly, where he meets Jen's father, George Talbot, a Population Police official. Luke finds out that everyone at the rally was shot and had died, including Jen. Mr. Talbot explains to Luke that he opposes the Population Law. The Population Police then break in to the Talbot's house and Luke hides quickly runs to hide in the closet.

After the police leave, Luke tries to say something, but Mr. Talbot gives Luke a sign not to. He writes on a piece of paper that the Population Police had placed listening devices and are listening for clues and evidence. He then writes to Luke and asks if he wants a fake I.D to live like a real person. Luke, a little unsure what to do, eventually accepts the idea and gets the fake I.D. Mr. Talbot meets Luke's parents and gives it to him. Luke's new identity is Lee Grant, a wealthy boy that supposedly ran away from his family and took refuge at Luke's farm and is now being sent to a year-long boarding school as punishment. (The real Lee Grant was killed in a ski accident the day before; his parents allowed Luke to assume his identity.) With his new identity, he leaves with Mr. Talbot, never to see his family ever again.

Summary by Kara Hawker

\*\*You will have to read the book to find out the rest!